

Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB)  
January 16, 2004  
Minutes

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Roger Volker, Mdiv, Chairperson  
Terrence McGaw, MD, Vice-Chairperson  
Beverly Neyland, MD  
Maggie Carlton, Senator  
Raquel Knecht, MA  
Jeffery Wrightson, MD  
Susanne Magleby  
Maureen Fanning for Donald Kwalick, MD, MPH

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Michelle Kling, RN, MS  
Chris Giunchigliani, Assemblywomen  
T.J. (Terri) Rosenberg

**NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT**

Judith Wright, Chief, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)  
Chris Forsch, Oral Health Consultant (BFHS)  
Kyle Devine, Child and Adolescent Health Coordinator (BFHS)  
Tami Terstege, Administrative Assistant (BFHS)

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Lisa Pacheco, RN-Program Coordinator, University Medical Center  
Joanne Kohls, Manager, Social Services Washoe Medical Center  
Kelsey Piechochi, Vice President, United Way  
Ken Retterath, Director of Adult Services, Washoe County District Social Services  
Robbin Palmer, PhD, Genetic Counselor  
Phil Nowak, Chief, Medicaid Managed Care and Nevada ✓ Check Up, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Roger Volker called to order the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB) meeting at **9:35 a.m.** at Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno and Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), Las Vegas. This was a videoconferenced public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS), Carson City; Kinkead Building, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; WCDHD, Reno; Clark County Health Department (CCHD), Las Vegas; Elko Nursing Office, Elko; NEIS, Las Vegas; and on the Nevada State Health Division (NSHD) website at [www.health2k.state.nv.us](http://www.health2k.state.nv.us) .

Introductions were made around the tables in both Reno and Las Vegas.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2003**

Dr. Terrence McGaw motioned to approve the minutes of October 17, 2003 as written and Senator Maggie Carlton seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

### **HEALTH OFFICER REPORT**

Judith Wright spoke as Dr. Bradford Lee, State Health Officer, Nevada State Health Division (NSHD), had an emergency and was unable to be present at the board. Heidi Sakelarios is the new Head of the Bio-Terrorism Unit. Budget instructions have been given for the 2005 Legislature.

### **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Wright discussed a letter from Dr. Scott Olds informing the Board of his resignation and thanking them for the opportunity to be on the MCHAB. Another letter from Robbin Palmer, Ph.D., addressed the fact she was surprised some of the board members left the last meeting early. Mr. Volker stated both of these letters stood alone and there was no need to address them.

### **UPDATE ON MEDICAID MANAGED CARE AND NEVADA ✓ CHECK UP INCLUDING AN UPDATE ON DENTAL**

Phil Nowak reported on Nevada ✓ Check Up, Medicaid and dental care. As of January 8, 2004 Nevada ✓ Check Up had an enrollment of 25,250. He stated Nevada ✓ Check Up has had very low enrollment in the past and he is very happy to report the enrollment is steadily inching upwards. With respect to dental in Clark County within the next month the School of Dentistry in Las Vegas will be opening one, possibly two of its clinics during the evening hours. There is going to be an evaluation study of dental care and delivery in northern and southern Nevada, specifically Reno and Las Vegas that DHCFP participated with a private entity funded by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The purpose is to update the perspective on where Medicaid and Nevada ✓ Check Up are in terms of satisfaction and quality of care. The report will be due by January 22, 2004. Mr. Nowak announced in the week of December 6, 2003 letters were mailed to the Medicaid and Nevada ✓ Check Up populations in urban Washoe, in English and Spanish; requesting members make a choice between the two managed care plans, either Nevada Care or Health Plan of Nevada (HPN). The time frame in which the choice is to be made is from December 10, 2003 through January 23, 2004. Mr. Nowak addressed the matter of network adequacy concerning the number of participating health care providers, particularly for obstetrics and pediatrics, the Board raised at the last meeting. He stated the numbers are encouraging from the standpoint the real test will be how the plan will be able to enhance member participation in the provider community. He stated the early numbers were really slow but the new plan, HPN, had been extremely aggressive in seeking contracted participation. Senator Carlton questioned the matter of some letters possibly not being returned and what are the consequences. Mr. Nowak responded if a letter is not returned then a program will be automatically assigned unless and individual is already enrolled in either program. Dr. McGaw asked if there were any information concerning HPN participants being required to go to St. Mary's for prenatal care. Mr. Nowak answered both, HPN and the Washoe Pregnancy Center (WPC), have an agreement that participants are not limited to St. Mary's and can have a delivery at

Washoe Medical Center (WMC) and prenatal care at WPC. Dr. McGaw thanked Mr. Nowak for how things worked out.

Raquel Knecht addressed Mr. Nowak about the Spanish speaking families that would be receiving the health care choice letters. Mr. Nowak responded there would be a letter sent out greeting each participant to their health care program along with the new Medicaid cards. The new cards will be distributed February 1, 04, and will not state the plan the participants are enrolled in. Dr. Beverly Neyland brought up the fact if there is a generic card sent to every participating individual in the state; it puts more of a burden on the health care providers and could possibly delay services. Mr. Nowak stated the cards will have a magnetic strip on the back that will contain all of the information a health care provider will need to treat patients and the only way for the program information to be accessed is for health care providers to have a card swipe available in their offices. Senator Carlton requested Mr. Nowak see if it would be at all possible to allow health care providers, as well as, the state to figure a way to have all of the information on the cards accessible through the internet or computer program by entering a social security number.

Ms. Wright addressed three phone calls the BFHS received about not qualifying for Medicaid because of already having insurance. She wanted to know if this was part of the new program or if the applicants were misinformed. Mr. Nowak stated that he would look into that matter.

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE INTEGRATED CASE MANAGEMENT (ICM) PILOT PROJECT**

Mr. Volker stated the reason this project became a part of the meeting is to inform the Board and to have the Board consider some form of comment and encouragement to the point of endorsing it. Mr. Volker stated he was interested in seeing this project included in the ongoing discussions of the Board, as well as, the annual report to the Governor. Mr. Volker also stated while this is a pilot project being conducted in Washoe county, there is a concord with state agencies and other agencies in the state this project be used as a model. Mr. Volker introduced Kelsey Piechochi, Vice President of United Way. Ms. Piechochi gave an overview of the Integrated Case Management (ICM) system and how the WPC will be identifying high-risk pregnancies and referring them to WMC. The ultimate objective of this pilot would be to enable more high-risk patients at WMC to successfully bring their babies home with them after birth. Ms. Piechochi introduced Joanne Kohls, Manager of Social Services at WMC and the lead participant of the pilot project. She stated WPC has approximately nine hundred patients; three hundred of those are considered to be high risk. From a medical stand point, about 10% of WPC's patients are identified as socially high risk. WPC makes the referral for those patients however WMC does not intervene unless substance abuse is indicated on the referral form or until the patient delivers. Ms. Kohls pointed out almost half of the referrals WMC receives have indications of substance abuse. Mr. Volker commented on the uniqueness of this project and reiterated the reasons he brought this project to the Board's attention and motioned for Board to endorse the project. Senator Carlton motioned and Dr. McGaw seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Dr. Neyland questioned the time frame for making this a state wide pilot program. Ms. Piechochi responded this is a state wide system already, meaning it is web based and there is access to resources, it is not a technological problem, it is a question of being able to manage this program statewide and she sees this project taking off after 2005. Dr. McGaw stated the WPC has been open for seventeen or eighteen years and high-risk pregnancies have been a continuously growing problem and early interventions with limited timelines are extremely important. Ms. Kohls in response to all of the questions and comments stated she would be communicating with Las Vegas to help them get this program started if and when it becomes statewide

**REPORT TO THE BOARD ON SEX EDUCATION CURRICULUMS IN NEVADA'S SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION OF STAFF.**

Mr. Volker introduced Kyle Devine, Child and Adolescent Health Coordinator with the NSHD, BFHS. Mr. Devine stated he contacted all of the school districts in Nevada and requested they send him their sexual education curriculums. Mr. Devine received curriculums from Carson City, Clark, Douglas, Eureka, Lyon, Pershing and Washoe counties. Mr. Devine discussed the curriculums and explained their differences, and stated the Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) does not require a specific amount of time be used to teach this subject and none of the curricula's supplied that information. Mr. Devine stated in his opinion Washoe County's curriculum could be used as a model throughout the state. Senator Carlton confessed her concern about all of the curriculums being from high schools and not from middle schools. She feels waiting until a child is in high school to introduce sexual education is not healthy. Mr. Devine clarified this particular report was high school only because few of the curricula he received disclosed any other information. Mr. Volker introduced a motion to investigate in each school district what they are teaching, how sexual education is being taught; and what barriers the school districts have in teaching sexual education to children. Senator Carlton motioned and Dr. Neyland seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Ms. Wright mentioned in NRS 389.065 it states only a teacher or nurse whose qualifications have been previously approved by the board of trustees can teach sexual education courses. Ms. Wright continued, saying maybe the NRS 389.065 should be re-worded to include abstinence. Senator Carlton responded by saying if schools were allowed to teach abstinence then other areas of sexual education would have to be addressed.

**APPOINTMENT OF CHARLENE HERST AND DR. SUSAN DOCTOR TO THE PERINATAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Senator Carlton motioned to approve the appointment of Charlene Herst and Doctor Susan Doctor to the Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention Subcommittee. Dr. Neyland seconded. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**UPDATE ON NEWBORN INTENSIVE CARE UNIT REGULATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE**

Ms. Wright spoke regarding the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Regulations. The next meeting will be held on January 26, 2004. It will be teleconferenced and is scheduled to start at 1:30 in the afternoon. The second draft should be finished in the next few meetings.

**APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO THE NICU REGULATION  
SUBCOMMITTEE TO REPLACE MEMBERS PREVIOUSLY APPOINTED:  
MIDGE ELKINS, RN FOR VALLEY HOSPITAL IN LAS VEGAS AND CINDY  
SPEER, RN FOR MOUNTAIN VIEW HOSPITAL IN LAS VEGAS**

Ms. Wright stated the hospitals proposed Judy "Midge" Elkins RN be appointed to the NICU subcommittee to represent Valley Hospital as well as Cindy Spear, RN to represent Mountain View Hospital. Dr. McGaw motioned and Senator Carlton Seconded.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

**INFORMATION ON STATE ORAL HEALTH SUMMIT FOR JANUARY 23,  
2004**

Chris Forsch spoke regarding the Oral Health Summit. She explained the Oral Health Program is funded primarily by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). There are ten goals the CDC wanted the states to meet; one of them is for the state to establish an Oral Health Plan, which is no more than 5 years old. Another is to establish a statewide Coalition. The purpose of the Oral Health Summit is to update the current oral health plan, and bring members of the four different coalitions together. The coalitions are from Clark County, Elko County, Lyon County and Washoe County. The current Oral Health 2002 Plan was funded by the Bureau of Primary Health Care. Since the 2002 State Oral Health Plan was implemented there was a national call to action that came out and set national goals for the state Oral Health Plan to meet. A planning committee has been established and consists of Dr. Rodolico, Dr Rosenberg, Dr. Sanders, Kelly Marshall Facilitator and Ms. Forsch. One of the things the planning committee is working on is a program called the One Day Program. That is a partnership program with the Southern Nevada Dental Association, who will be recruiting volunteer dentists to help children that do not and cannot get insurance. The Moapa tribe is putting in a health facility that will include eight chairs to help provide oral care for approximately 30,000 individuals in the Clark County area. Ms. Forsch continued in saying the coalition has a subgroup working on issues of licensure. In particular there are concerns about what options could be explored when Senate Bill (S.B.) 133 sunsets. The subgroup had a meeting and it was gratifying to see they had agreed on more than they disagreed and their goal is to come to an agreement that can be presented to the legislature, with which all parties are happy. Senator Carlton asked who attended the meeting. Chris Forsch answered Maury Astley from the Nevada Dental Association, William Bush from the Nevada State Board of Examiners, Bobbett Bond from the Culinary Welfare Fund, Cheri Peterson, Dental Hygiene Association, as well as, the State Board of Dental Examiner, and the Community College of Southern Nevada, and Dr. Saunders representing the UNLV Dental School of Medicine. The next meeting will be on February 13, 2004 at 9:00 am.

**PRESENTATION ON PROCESS FOR YEAR 2005 MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT NEEDS ASSESSMENT; DISCUSSION OF BOARD PARTICIPATION AND DIRECTION TO STAFF**

Ms. Wright explained under the MCH Block Grant a needs assessment must be done every five years. Ms. Wright explained that a needs assessment identifies problems, monitors progress, and provides data. The MCH needs assessment must identify preventive and primary care services for pregnant women, mother and infants up to age one, children and adolescents, and children with special health care needs (CSHCN). The MCH program is receiving about \$400,000 more than in prior years and is working very successfully. Ms. Wright proposed to make this a standing item on the Board's agenda. Dr. McGaw motioned and Senator Carlton seconded. **MOTIONED APPROVED.**

**SET DATES FOR BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2004**

The following dates were agreed upon: April 2, 2004 teleconferenced; June 25, 2004 in Reno; October 22, 2004 teleconferenced; and December 10, 2004.

Dr. McGaw motioned; Raquel Knecht seconded. Dates Approved.

**BOARD DISCUSSION OF STAFF REPOSRT AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF**

The Baby Your Baby Program (BYB) has a new name and is now called the Maternal and Child Health campaign; however the old BYB number is still being used. The Real Choice System Change Grant has two people hired and interviews are being conducted for a program manager.

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND DISCUSSION**

Dr. Palmer reiterated from the August meeting that the MCH needs assessment should be sent to the former Genetic Subcommittee members, the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Committee on Human Resources and Facilities. Dr. Palmer requested an explanation of the northern NEIS waiting list of 150 children waiting to be seen by Colleen Morris the Geneticist who is on sabbatical. Ms. Wright commented that Dr. Powell would be coming to see patients in the interim. Dr. Palmer shared with the Board that Utah is the only state that has licensed Genetic Counselors, and she commented on the fact that she would like to see Genetic Counselors in Nevada become licensed.

Meeting adjourned at **11:30 am.**